



TOWN OF HUDSON

Benson Park Committee

Jim Barnes, Chairman

Roger Coutu, Selectmen Liaison



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Meeting Minutes June 2, 2016

Present	James Barnes, Shawn Jasper, Richard Empey, Ralph Alio, Ann Kinneen-Desrosiers, Margaret McQueeney, John Leone, Harry Schibanoff, Roger Coutu, Selectman Liaison, Jeremy Griffus
Absent	Joe Undercofler
Public Guests	None
Call to Order	Jim Barnes called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.
Pledge of Allegiance	The Pledge was led by Jim.
Public Input	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no public input.
Approval of Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roger motioned to approve the minutes of May 17, 2016; Ann seconded it. All approved.
Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Fishing Derby is scheduled for Saturday, June 4. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The parking lot should be paved by then. ○ John will open the gate at 7 am to let the Derby volunteers into the park. ○ Swan Lake will be stocked by Friday. • Proposed permit parking ordinance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public Hearing is scheduled for June 14 and June 28. ○ Roger explained what occurs during the Public Hearings. ○ Purpose of hearing is to explain the ordinance. ○ Citizens will be able to speak in favor or in opposition to the proposal. ○ Any changes to the proposed ordinance should be presented at the first meeting on June 14. ○ As written now, five parking spaces are proposed for volunteers and ten parking permits for volunteers. ○ Shawn asked where and how the recommendation for ten parking permits came about. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Roger replied the Board of Selectmen are going to put together a plan of action for the future of the Park. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The BOS need to establish management control of all of the parks in town. • The Benson Park Committee cannot oversee the Park forever. • There is a need to look at who should manage the Park. • One member of the Board of Selectmen told Roger she will not commit one additional dime to Benson Park. Right now three of the selectmen support Park, two do

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> not. • The town needs a management team for structure and better control. • The ten parking permits is an arbitrary number. • Roger is afraid volunteers will call the police if non-permit holders park in one of the five allotted spaces. • Permits cannot be transferable. ○ Shawn stated generally volunteers work during the week not on the weekend. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There are a lot of empty spaces. ○ Jeremy stated the drive behind the ordinance is to provide adequate parking for the FoBP and the grounds crew. ○ Ralph asked why the ordinance only allows for town residents to obtain a permit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Many of the volunteers are from other towns and some even from out-of-state. ○ Margaret stated the ordinance did not guarantee five parking spaces; it states up to five spaces. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Roger stated this needs to be discussed at the public meeting. ○ John requested all but two of the accessible parking spaces be paved over to become regular parking spaces. The closest to the train station should remain accessible. ○ Roger will work with Kevin Burns to get the spots paved over. ○ John moved to have the spots paved; Shawn seconded. All approved. • Long Range Planning Discussion – Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jim suggested we put the projects in order by the results of the committees voting. ○ Roger stated he thinks a cost analysis should be completed prior to placing the projects in order. ○ Jim stated a planning function should be completed and John agreed with him. ○ Shawn stated Roger is right. A vision needs to be presented to the Board of Selectmen. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Some things like the security person may need to be reformulated. ▪ Money will be required. ▪ Item No. 4 Generating Revenue changes everything. ▪ The Committee needs to sit down with the Board of Selectmen before moving forward with any planning. ○ Roger will request the meeting. ○ The Committee stated their concern over not having a more refined plan to present. ○ Jeremy expressed concern the document the
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	<p>Committee has now is not ready for prime time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Resources need to be looked into <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Restrooms. ▪ Roger stated the RFQ can be done; the BOS may dictate a different way to do things. ○ Jim stated the next step is to setup a workshop. ○ Roger will setup the workshop.
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parking lot directional signage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Margaret stated that at a prior meeting the Committee approved signage to be placed at the top parking lot directing to the main lower parking lot. ○ Roger stated it isn't needed as did Shawn. ○ Margaret stated in her experience from working in the park on the weekends and during park cleanup, many people stop and ask where they can park. Having a sign will help eliminate this constant question. ○ Roger motioned that the signage is not needed. ○ The motion failed because there was no second to the motion. ○ Shawn stated the sign should say main parking, 500' ahead. ○ Jeremy asked if a vote was taken on this at an earlier meeting or if it was just discussed. Jim said we would look into it. ○ State approval may be required to place a sign along Kimball Hill Road. ● 9-11 Memorial maintenance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ John questioned who is responsible for the maintenance. ○ Dick said the Highway Department is responsible, but the problem is that there is no water. Once the utilities are in, water can be pumped up for the old well. This project should have a higher priority on the list. ○ Ted's wife mentioned the condition of the grass around the Memorial. ○ Volunteers do cleanup the Memorial. Cindy Undercofler does most of the maintenance. ○ Jeremy suggested using a fertilizer or weed killer to help with the condition of the grass. Only natural fertilizers may be used in the Park. Nashua Farmers Exchange carries natural fertilizers. Roger will see if some money can be raised to help pay for irrigation of the memorial area.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maintenance of the lawn is done by the Highway Department. The biggest problem is lack of water.
Adjournments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Roger motioned to close the meeting, seconded by Shawn, all agreed. ● The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.
Action Items – Assignments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Action Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Roger – contact Kevin Burns regarding paving

	<p>over accessible parking spots</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Roger – set up meeting with Benson Park Committee and the BOS to discuss future projects within the Park.○ Roger – look into funding for irrigation system for the 9-11 Memorial site.○ John – open the Park for the Fishing Derby volunteers at 7 am on June 4, 2016.○ Margaret – minutes.
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